

Kansas City Journal.

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FRIDAY.

KANSAS CITY, DECEMBER 3, 1897.—TEN PAGES.

FRIDAY.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

Yes! It Will Be a Greater Kansas City—Bigger, Better, More Populous Kansas City.

WEST VOTED IN.

OVERWHELMING MAJORITY IN FAVOR OF ANNEXATION.

VERY LIGHT VOTE IS CAST.

INCLEMENT WEATHER KEEPS MANY FROM THE POLLS.

Kansas City Almost Doubles Its Area—No Organized Opposition to the Movement—Greater Kansas City Soon to Be a Reality.

For Annexation.....5,731
Against.....323
Majority.....5,408

By a vote of 5,731 to 323 Kansas City yesterday extended her limits, almost doubled her area, and the flourishing and historic city of Westport was annexed as a portion of what is now Greater Kansas City. While there was a surprisingly light vote cast all over the city, the friends of progress and prosperity were out in such numbers that the objectors were swallowed up under a vote of more than seventeen to one.

It was a splendid victory for progress and the indomitable will and purpose that have made the city. It was the great opportunity for a mighty step in advance and it was used for the best purpose by the people who face the rising sun and believe there is coming for Greater Kansas City brighter days than she has ever seen and prosperity such as will justify all of the great prophecies that have been made.

The men who had threatened to defeat the annexation proposition were engulfed in the tidal wave of progress. The vote could have been fifty to one just as easily. The annexation proposition carried in every precinct in the city. Of all the precincts not one was able to raise even ten voters who were against the city's interests. The highest number in any one precinct was in the Eleventh, of the Eighth ward, where nine votes were cast against the extension. Two other precincts gave eight votes and eleven had no opposition whatever to the plan.

The election passed off quietly in the various wards yesterday. The feature of the day apart from the surprisingly light vote polled, was the discovery that not less than 3,000 suffragans, much to their surprise, found they had no vote owing to removal into other wards since the last election. In some instances men who were known to have been residents of the city for years lost the privilege of voting for a Greater Kansas City owing to recent moves. Even Mayor Jones was barred from casting a ballot, he having last May changed his residence from the Auditorium to the Bonaventure. Mr. Jones paid a visit to the office of the election commissioner and asked that he be allowed to vote in his old ward, if not in the new, but the plain terms of the statute forbade this, and he is denied the privilege of saying "I voted for a Greater Kansas City." Mr. Kelly, the mayor's private secretary, was in the same predicament, and consequently could not vote.

The telephone in the election commissioner's office was kept ringing all day long, and one person was kept busily explaining how it was that temporary disfranchisement had resulted. In some instances strong language was used, and some of the provisions of the present election law came in for unstinted condemnation. This condition of affairs has also developed another surprising fact, and that is the wonderful number of changes in residences to occur within a limited space of time.

Now that the result of the election is known, speculation is indulged touching the new order of things. The commissioners of election will meet without unnecessary delay and canvass the returns and certain other preliminaries be completed with, after which the new territory will be in. It is that the work of redistricting will be taken up by the common council. At present much talk is going on touching the number of new wards to be created. Some advocate two, others three, and still others four. The proposition most favorably discussed at present seems to be to give the South side two and the East side one ward, which would swell the number of representatives in each house to thirteen. This proposition, however, invites criticism from the superstitious.

The method of selecting the men to represent the new territory is of interest at this time. That the upper house has the right to select its associates for the intervening time between this and the spring election is not controverted, but it is contended that no such right exists with the lower house. While those whose duty it is to construe the law will vouchsafe no official opinion prior to a thorough investigation, it is unofficially stated that the mayor will have the right to appoint the lower house members to serve during the interim between annexation and election, provided it is less than one hundred days. In the event of immediate action by the council it is contended that the lower house additions would have to be elected. There is a decided element adverse to any increase of the council whatever prior to the coming spring election.

The vote cast yesterday by wards and precincts was as follows:

FIRST WARD.
Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....211
Majority for 20.

SECOND WARD.
Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....157
Majority for 14.

THIRD WARD.
Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....157
Majority for 14.

FOURTH WARD.

Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....353
Majority for 342.

FIFTH WARD.

Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....353
Majority for 342.

SIXTH WARD.

Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....353
Majority for 342.

SEVENTH WARD.

Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....353
Majority for 342.

EIGHTH WARD.

Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....353
Majority for 342.

NINTH WARD.

Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....353
Majority for 342.

TENTH WARD.

Precinct 1.....For. Against.
Precinct 2.....
Precinct 3.....
Precinct 4.....
Total.....353
Majority for 342.

FINISHES ITS BUSINESS.

Westport Council Meets to Clear the Budget and Prepare for the Coming Year.

Amid the flurry of the falling snow, and the doleful crooning of cold northern blast, the city fathers of Westport, as an independent municipality, met last night for the last time. The lawmakers assembled in the new hall at 5 o'clock to close up the unfinished business preparatory to linking the destinies of Westport with its big neighbor just to the north. No number sign of sadness was visible upon the countenances of the wise men. On the contrary, all seemed confident of the signal victory then in sight.

When the body convened all were disposed to dispatch the little business in hand as quickly as possible. No oratorical addresses were delivered, and, with a demeanor characteristic of business men, the unfinished business was concluded. Alderman McMillan then presented resolutions highly complimentary Mayor D. D. Drake for the wisdom, ability and impartiality displayed in the handling of the city's affairs. Adjournment was taken with no date fixed for a future meeting.

The citizens of Westport who have long felt that they had the right to share with Kansas City its glory believe that general satisfaction with the result of the annexation has been made that some celebration of the result would be proper, but owing to the inclement weather, no celebration along this line resulted last night. The old desks and other furniture so long used by the city fathers were packed up and with the taking up of the changed condition of things will pass to the different members of the council to whom they were voted Monday night.

At the fire station last night the boys were anxiously discussing the new status and naturally each was inquisitive as to the disposition to be made of him. Friendly banter was the order and each disputed with the other the right to the magnificent span of gray horses belonging to the department.

City Marshal Morrison wore a look of sadness on his face, for he had for the past four years kept the peace in the village and guided the steps of the wayfarer along the river. He had no one to help him in the result, for it had largely been brought about by the voters of the city. He had no one to help him in the result, for it had largely been brought about by the voters of the city.

As a general rule the faithful city fathers are rejoiced at the idea of laying aside the office and each disputing the thought that it had been his privilege to contribute to so glorious an outcome.

WESTPORTERS IN WASHINGTON.

Washington, Dec. 2.—(Special.) Captain John T. Blake, left for home for the new year at Kansas City, Mo. He was accompanied by Representative Curtis, of Topeka.

KANSAS MASONIC HOME CHARGE.

Wichita, Kan., Dec. 2.—(Special.) Mr. and Mrs. Seper, superintendent and matron, respectively, of the Kansas Masonic home, resigned to-day, owing to ill-health. They will return to their home in Beloit, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. George Bristol, of this city, have been appointed to fill the vacancies. They will assume charge to-morrow.

SYSTEM IN THE RIOTS.

MOBS THAT ARE RULING PRAGUE ARE ORGANIZED.

MARTIAL LAW PROCLAIMED.

RUMOR THAT TWENTY-FIVE RIOTERS WERE SLAIN LAST NIGHT.

More Troops Called Out and To-day There Will Be at Least Twelve Thousand Soldiers on Duty in the Bohemian Capital.

Prague, Dec. 2.—Martial law has been proclaimed here, as well as in the judicial districts of surrounding Slovakia, Weinberg and Smichow, as a result of recent riots.

Rioting was resumed here at 8 o'clock this morning, when stores and houses in two streets of the town were pillaged. Seven battalions of infantry and two squadrons of cavalry were called out to disperse the mob.



BARON GANTSCH VON FRANKENTHUM.
The New Premier of Austria, Succeeding Count Badeni.

Two additional battalions of infantry from Konigsgratz and three battalions of infantry from Theresienstadt have arrived here.

The Politik, declaring that the present agitation was started by persons to whom the fatherland and nationality are matters of indifference, appeals to-day to all parties to restrain a movement "which might be fatal not only to the fatherland and to its chief city, but to the political aspirations of the Bohemian nation."

There have been serious collisions between the police and large mobs to-night in the Smythow and Zizchow suburbs of the city. Two persons were wounded. The police made ninety arrests. The Ambulance Association has issued a report, showing that within the last twenty-four hours four persons have been killed, 150 dangerously wounded and 500 more or less seriously injured. Twenty shops have been looted.

As a further indication of the gravity of the situation, troops to the number of 10,000, equipped with ammunition and other paraphernalia, as for a campaign, have been engaged in suppressing the riots.

It is not exactly martial law that has been proclaimed, but, rather, the institution of summary civil procedure, called standrecht, whereby a special tribunal of seven judges is empowered to impose capital and other severe sentences for offenses ordinarily punished mildly. There is no appeal against a death sentence by the tribunal, which must be put into execution within twenty hours, by the military, if the hangman is not available.

The intimate knowledge the mob has displayed of the exact position of all of the wealthiest German houses and of valuable German property show that the riots were organized in advance. The young Czechs have paraded the streets wearing plundered jewelry, and comparatively few German houses have escaped attack.

Further troops are being drafted into Prague from Vienna and elsewhere, and to-morrow there will be at least 12,000 soldiers in the city and in its immediate suburbs.

The burgomaster and the municipal councilors to-day submitted to the government a petition against the Czech students in connection with the recent disturbances. The governor replied that, while he well understood recent events had caused great excitement, he was compelled to point out that there was no justification for the excesses in this city, and he further declared that the utmost rigor would be exercised in order to re-establish order and protect the property of Germans.

It is evident that the standrecht was not proclaimed a moment too soon at Prague. Well dressed men, it is said, rode on bicycles through the city and the suburbs, making lists of German places marked for attack, and the work of the rioters being done in accordance with these lists, and in many places simultaneously, prevention was almost impossible.

Goldsmiths' and jewellers' showcases were emptied in a few minutes. Women carried baskets to take home the contents of grocery stores and other articles too heavy to carry were thrown away. The work of the rioters being done in accordance with these lists, and in many places simultaneously, prevention was almost impossible.

NO COMPROMISE REACHED.

Parliamentary deadlock in Austria continues, in spite of Premier Gantsch's efforts.

BOOMERS TO BE INTERCEPTED.

Secretary Bliss Will Tolerate No Invasion of the Wichita Country.

Washington, Dec. 2.—(Special.) General Nelson A. Miles this morning had an interview with Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs Tommes, and later with Secretary Bliss in reference to the report telegraphed here yesterday regarding the threatened invasion of the Wichita Indian reservation by a party of boomers. Judging by the action taken to-day, the department is inclined to consider seriously the reported invasion, and has taken steps to prevent it.

The object of General Miles' visit was to insure what the Indian office had taken in the matter, as he thought it possible that it might be necessary to call upon the troops to intercept the boomers, who are reported to be over 300 strong, and meeting upon the reservation with the Wichita mountains as the objective point. General Miles was notified that Secretary Tommes had already taken action in the matter. Under his direction, Commissioner Bliss has already sent out a detachment of soldiers to the reservation, which were mailed this morning, to every Indian agent in the threatened territory, directing that every effort be made to head off the boomers, using force if necessary. Every agent has been cautioned to be constantly on the alert, and to advise the department in case any new feature should arise.

CHINA MAY NOT YIELD.

Emperor Says He Would Rather Forefeit His Crown Than Grant Germany's Demands.

London, Dec. 2.—A special dispatch from Shanghai, received this afternoon, announces that the emperor of China has declared that he would rather forfeit his crown than yield to the conditions demanded by Germany as redress for the murder of the two German missionaries, Nies and Henne, and the destruction of German mission property in the province of Shan Tung.

Admiral Hiedrich, the German commander of Kiao Chou bay, the dispatch further states, has proclaimed martial law in the district around Kiao Chou.

China, the dispatch concludes, desires that her dispute with Germany be submitted to arbitrators appointed by Holland and Belgium.

WILL SEND A SMALL CRUISER.

Germany Has Not Given Up Her Intention of Bringing Hayti to Terms.

Berlin, Dec. 2.—It is announced that the small German cruiser, Geier, with a crew of 25 men, will be ordered to Port-au-Prince, Hayti, in order to support the demands of Germany for an indemnity to Herr Emil Lueders for his alleged false imprisonment by the Haytian authorities. The Geier will "demonstrate" only in case the pending negotiations with the Haytian minister at Berlin should fail.

PROTEST AGAINST M'KENNA.

Portland, Ore., Attorneys and Two Federal Judges Sign a Petition to the President.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 2.—A petition to President McKinley protesting against the appointment of Attorney General McKenna as justice of the United States supreme court has been signed here by two federal judges and a large number of the leading attorneys of Portland. The petition says: "The consensus of opinion has been, and is, that Judge McKenna is not, either by place of acquirement, or by character, or by education, much less for his judicial place in the land."

B. K. BRUCE IN HIS OLD PLACE AGAIN.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The president to-day signed a bill to reappoint B. K. Bruce to be register of the treasury. Mr. Bruce represented Mississippi in the United States senate, and was one of the best known negro Republicans in the country. The position to which he is appointed is one he held some years ago.

THE PERRY LAND OFFICE.

Washington, Dec. 2.—(Special.) One of the early appointments expected is that of A. H. Holes, to be registrar of the land office. Mr. Holes is a resident of the state of Louisiana and has been received by the president, and will probably be acted on during the first week of congress.

BRIEF BITS OF NEWS.

Eunice Rice, of Lawrence, Kas., has been appointed cook at the Absentee Shawnee Agency.

Nettie Cromwell, of Iowa Falls, Ia., died in that city Wednesday night from the excessive use of headache tablets.

Drink and business troubles drove Joshua Morris, proprietor of the Elms hotel at Salina, to suicide. He leaves a wife and four children, who came with him several months to Salina.

Five deaths of the home for aged and infirm colored women on Indiana avenue, hereabouts, yesterday. Several of the almost helpless inmates were nearly suffocated by smoke before rescued by the police.

Judge E. C. Whiting, ex-state senator from the state of Kansas, died at the age of 70, in 1885, he ran for governor on the Democratic ticket.

Katharine Rose, whose father shot and fatally wounded, on her account, Dr. Norcross, in the case of the Hawkeye, was father's residence in that city Wednesday to Edwin S. Varnell, a traveling salesman.

A policy of using American made goods in the supplies of the postal service is announced by the letter carrier by First Assistant Postmaster General Heath to Mr. W. W. Lewis, superintendent of the division of postal supplies.

An attempt was made to hold up and rob a passenger train on the Mexican National road near Monterrey, Mex. by masked and well armed Mexicans. The passengers made resistance and the outlaws were routed and wounded many.

Jack London, indicted at St. Joseph, Mo., in 1886 for highway robbery, is still in jail. The term of court was nearly ended, and he was arrested, so he was not tried, and in the change of county officers which came soon after, his case was entirely forgotten. London said nothing, but a day or so ago it was learned that the jailbooks had been checked, and it was found that he had not been tried. Charles Boner, indicted at the same time, has served his term in the penitentiary.

MRS. M'KINLEY DYING.

MOTHER OF THE PRESIDENT STRICKEN WITH PARALYSIS.

NO HOPE FOR HER RECOVERY.

THE PRESIDENT IS HASTENING TO HER BEDSIDE.

"Mother" McKinley Has Been Ill for Several Days, but Her Illness Did Not Take a Serious Turn Until This Morning.

Canton, O., Dec. 2.—At an early hour this morning Mrs. Nancy Allison McKinley, the venerable mother of the president, was stricken with paralysis and her death is believed to be a question of only a short time. Not since Mrs. McKinley was stricken has there been a favorable feature in her condition. That the attack would ultimately end in death was the first fear of the family on discovering her illness, and the consultations of the attending physicians have tended to confirm this belief.

MRS. NANCY ALLISON M'KINLEY.



Stricken With Paralysis Yesterday Morning, and Is Dying at Her Home in Canton, O.

Every effort is being made to render the patient comfortable, and what will doubtless prove to be her last illness, as free from suffering as possible.

The paralysis, when it first appeared, was not of a serious form, and seemed only to have affected her vocal chords. She was able to walk from her own bed chamber to that of her daughter, Miss Helen McKinley, a physician was summoned to the attack, and at that time seemed to be in possession of all mental and physical faculties, but soon afterward a change was noticed and in the afternoon she sank into a condition of semi-consciousness, in which she has since remained.

"Mother" McKinley must have been stricken some time during last night, but the first intimation she had of any change in her condition was when she awoke this morning, and found herself unable to speak. She walked to the room of her daughter and aroused the latter. At once Miss McKinley saw that something had happened. She awakened the other members of the family and a physician was called. He at once pronounced the trouble paralysis.

"Mother" McKinley had been slightly ill for several days with a mild attack of the grip. She had been up and about the house, and no serious results from her illness were apprehended. Her son, Abner McKinley, of New York, arrived in Canton on Tuesday, and his mother seemed to be greatly cheered by his presence. Yesterday she was so bright and cheerful as to cause the family to remark on her improvement. Mr. McKinley saying he had not seen his mother looking so well and happy for some time.

Mr. Abner McKinley communicated with the president as soon as he learned the serious nature of the illness of his mother, and the president asked that he be advised immediately of every change. Arrangements were made for communication by telephone, and telegrams were also exchanged frequently.

Soon after noon, Mr. Abner McKinley notified the president that the sufferer had lapsed into semi-consciousness, and promised to communicate further at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The president did not wait for the 5 o'clock message. He responded: "Tell mother I will be there" and at once prepared to start for Canton. He is expected to arrive here at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Dr. Phillips, when he saw the patient at 6 o'clock this evening, had little to add to what he had already said, to the effect that she was very ill and stood but little chance of recovery. It was the opinion of the doctor that she could not last more than a few days, and the end might come at any time.

Inquiries concerning the condition of Mrs. McKinley are coming to Canton from all parts of the country, a flood of telegrams starting as soon as the news of her illness was made public. Mrs. McKinley, the quiet and secluded life which "Mother" McKinley leads, was not for some time after the attack.

Dr. Phillips and Mr. Abner McKinley were seen at 10 o'clock to-night, just after they had left the bedside of Mother McKinley. Mr. McKinley thinks his mother is sinking very fast and fears that the end is not far off. He says she barely recognizes the members of the family, and seems to be growing weak rapidly. Dr. Phillips said: "Mrs. McKinley is barely

HASTENING TO CANTON.

President McKinley Left Washington for His Mother's Bedside Last Evening.

Washington, Dec. 2.—President McKinley left the city at 7:20 o'clock to-night, over the Pennsylvania railroad, to hasten to the bedside of his sick mother at Canton, where she will arrive to-morrow. With him went Judge Day, assistant secretary of state, the two occupying the Pullman car Davy Crockett, attached to the regular train. The president had made hurried arrangements for his departure, and during the afternoon disposed of a large volume of business awaiting his attention. He reached the station unattended a few minutes before the time for the train to leave. Desiring to avoid any demonstration, the president instructed his coachman to drive to the baggage entrance, where Assistant Secretary Day, Secretary Porter and Executive Clerk Croteau awaited him.

The president's stay at Canton will depend upon the condition in which he finds his mother. If she improves, he will return to Washington in time for the opening of congress, and later go again to Canton.

His absence will not prevent the president's annual message being sent to congress, as communication between the president and the congressional committee can be established by telegraph, and the message sent by telegraph.

CAME OF A RACE OF PIONEERS.

"Mother" McKinley Was Born in Ohio in 1809 and Has Always Lived There.

Canton, O., Dec. 2.—Mrs. McKinley came of the race of hardy pioneers who laid the foundation of the American republic. She was born in New Lisbon, O., in 1809. Her family originally came from England to Virginia, thence to Pennsylvania, and finally settled permanently in Ohio. She was married to William McKinley, Sr., January 6, 1825, and was living in a two story frame house, still standing near Niles, O., when her distinguished son was born, January 23, 1842. The removal from Niles to Mahoning county was prompted by a desire to give her children a better education. Mrs. McKinley is a woman of sterling qualities, frugal, industrious, pious and proud of her son. Her patriotism is strong and passionate, and her intellectual power truly wonderful.

Her husband died on March 24, 1892. Like the mothers of Garfield and Grant, she lived and rejoiced to see her son president of his and her country.

When President McKinley entered congress over two years ago, he was away from his mother very much of the time until he retired from congress to make the canvass for governor in 1891. During his service, from 1892 to 1896, as governor, he visited his mother frequently to visit his mother, and he was with her from January, 1896, until he went to Washington last March. Previous to entering public life, the president was always located near his parents and spent much time with them.

TOO MUCH COMPETITION.

One of the Host of Klondike Development Companies Quietly Quits Business.

New York, Dec. 2.—The Yukon-Cariboo British Columbia Gold Mining and Development Company has quietly closed its New York offices. Several of the investors have authorized lawyers to recover the money paid for shares. The lawyers say the company was organized by Charles H. Kittinger, of Seattle, a director.

Robert L. Kittinger, attorney for one of the shareholders, says: "From a former director of the company I have learned that it has decided to retire from the Klondike field because of the great competition. It started in good faith, but soon a whole raft of fake companies blossomed forth and killed the business. I understand that the Yukon-Cariboo company will refund stockholders the amount of their subscriptions."

AN ENORMOUS DEFICIT.

Official Figures on the Chicago Horse Show Reveal a Startling Shortage.

Chicago, Dec. 2.—An official statement of the accounts of the Horse show recently held in Chicago shows a deficit of \$30,000. The amount is much larger than was generally supposed.

SHUT DOWN FOR LACK OF WOOL.

Seattle, Mo., Dec. 2.—(Special.) The Seattle woolen mills closed down to-day for an indefinite period, throwing twenty-five operatives out of work. The proprietors say that they could not buy a sufficient quantity of wool to keep the mills running. The demand for the products of the mills have been unprecedented during the past six months, and the firm is now short on yarn to meet orders.

CALUMET AND HECLA DIVIDENDS.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 2.—The British steamship Alberta, Captain Davis, sailed for Hull to-day with 25,000 bushels of corn. This is the largest cargo of corn ever shipped from this port, and probably the largest ever shipped from the United States.

A BIG CARGO OF CORN.

Boston, Dec. 2.—A dividend of \$10 has been declared by the Calumet and Hecla Mining Company, payable January 1, to stock of record December 4. This makes \$30 for the current fiscal year, which begins May 1, and \$50 for the current calendar year of operation.

CRISPI TO BE TRIED.

EX-PREMIER OF ITALY MUST ANSWER TO SERIOUS CHARGES.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES ACTS.

APPOINTS A COMMITTEE TO INQUIRE INTO THE SCANDALS.

Signor Crispi Accused of Complicity in the Extortion of Huge Sums From Banks—His Wife Proven a Voracious Plunderer.

Rome, Dec. 2.—To-day the chamber of deputies appointed a commission of five to inquire into the charges against Signor Francesco Crispi, former premier, in connection with the Bank of Naples scandals and the alleged liberal traffic in decorations.

The proceedings are the result of the recent decision of the Italian court of cassation, which quashed the judicial indictment brought against him, on the ground that the ordinary tribunals of justice were not competent to deal with such charges brought against a former member of the government or his conduct while in the government. The court of cassation held that such charges must be dealt with by parliament, which was the contention of Signor Crispi, and the judicial proceedings were thrown out.

The special commission was appointed after an impassioned speech by Signor Crispi, in which he declared that he desired the most ample and complete discussion of the whole question, and did not dread the light, which, he said, could reveal nothing against him.

"I am the victim of a calumny," he asserted, "and should have brought suit against my calumniators if the matter had not been referred to the chamber."

Signor Crispi recalled his past labors on behalf of Italy, and admitted that there had been times when he had erred. He claimed, however, from his conquerors an unbiased judgment, and asserted that he was prepared to testify before the commission and to omit nothing, so that the matter might be brought to the light and cleared up. "But it will be very hard at 78, after devoting fifty-three years to the service of my country."

Signor Crispi, the most brilliant Italian statesman since the days of Cavour, is called upon to face, in his extreme old age, not accusations of political crimes, but ordinary felonies. He has already been subjected to the humiliation of magisterial examination in connection with charges of complicity in the frauds that wrecked the Bank of Naples, the Bank of Rome, the Bank of Sicily and other kindred institutions. The Crispi cabinet was driven from office as the result of these scandals.

In such cases the insolency of the bank appeared to have been brought about through the blackmailing extortions to which it was subjected by leading politicians and government officials of the day. Most of this dishonesty took place during the administration of Crispi.

Not even his most relentless enemy has ever accused him of plundering the banks to his private resources. On the contrary, his countrymen have accepted his assertions that the money extorted from these institutions was used by him for the secret service of the government and in electoral expenditures.

Unfortunately for him, the judicial authorities who inquired into the circumstances that led to the failure of the banks discovered that among the most voracious of the plunderers was Signora Crispi, the veteran statesman's wife. It was noted at the time that from one place alone something like \$2,000,000 found its way into her private banking account; and it was urged and is still urged that Signor Crispi, not being a rich man, could not have known of his wife's private demands, as in no other way could he have accounted for the large sums of money she expended upon her establishment while he was in power.

Last spring, when the most part accepted by Signor Crispi, a loan of 400,000 lire for election expenses, the money was repaid to the bank from the secret service funds.

Crispi told King Humbert of his predicament and asked him to lend him 120,000 lire toward the remainder of the indebtedness. Signor Crispi furnished the money, and was able to make the full amount. Thus, according to the story, Signor Crispi repaid the loan.